



1963

T H E B O R O U G H O F
LOSTWITHIEL
IN THE C O U N T Y O F C O R N W A L L

A N N U A L R E P O R T

- of the -

M E D I C A L O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H



To the Mayor, Aldermen and Councillors
of the Borough of Lostwithiel.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to
present the Annual Report on the Health and
Sanitary Circumstances of the Borough of
Lostwithiel for the year ended 31st December 1963.

Once again there has been a
nil infantile mortality rate, which fact reflects
credit on both parental and medical and nursing
attention. At the other end of the scale the
provision of 12 flats for old people with a
Warden service is a forward step of real
social significance.

There were few cases of infectious
disease during the year.

Mr Setchell has contributed
considerable parts of this report, and while
extending my thanks to him for this, I should
like to draw attention to his unfailing
cooperation.

I wish also to thank the Health
Committee for their unfailing courtesy and interest.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

J. McGOVERN

Medical Officer of Health.



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Area (in acres)	3156
Population (estimated mid-year)	1900
Number of Inhabited Houses	791
Rateable Value	£45,846
Produce of a Penny Rate	£178

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Live Births</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	
				<u>Lostwithiel</u>	<u>England and Wales</u>
Legitimate	12	9	22		
Illegitimate	1	-			
				Corrected for comparison with other areas 13.66	18.2
<u>Illegitimate Births</u>					
Percentage of the Total Births				4.5	6.9
<u>Still Births</u>	Nil.				
Rate per 1,000 total live and Still births				Nil	17.2
Total live and Still births 13(m) 9 (f)				22	
<u>Infant Deaths</u> (under 1 year)				Nil	
Rate per 1,000 total live Births				Nil	21.1
Legitimate Infant deaths per 1,000 live Births Nil					
Illegitimate deaths per 1,000 illegitimate					
live births				Nil	
<u>Neo-Natal Mortality Rate</u>					
(Deaths under 4 weeks)					
Rate per 1,000 live births				Nil	14.2
<u>Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate</u>					
(Deaths under 1 week)					
Rate per 1,000 live births				Nil	
<u>Peri-Natal Mortality Rate</u>					
(Stillbirths and deaths under 1 week)					
Combined per 1,000 total live and Still births Nil					29.3
<u>Maternal Mortality</u>				Nil	0.28
				<u>Rate per 1,000 Population</u>	
<u>Deaths</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>		
All Causes	14	22	36	17.7	
				Corrected for comparison with other areas 13.1	12.2

CAUSE OF DEATHS

The following table gives the causes of death in accordance with the International Abbreviated List (1948)

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
1. Tuberculosis, respiratory	-	-
2. Tuberculosis, other	-	-
3. Syphilitic Disease	-	-
4. Diphtheria	-	-
5. Whooping Cough	-	-
6. Meningococcal Infections	-	-
7. Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-
8. Measles	-	-
9. Other infective and parasitic diseases	-	-
10. Malignant neoplasm, stomach	-	1
11. Malignant neoplasm, lung, bronchus	-	-
12. Malignant neoplasm, breast	-	1
13. Malignant neoplasm, uterus	-	-
14. Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasm	1	1
15. Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-
16. Diabetes	1	-
17. Vascular lesions of nervous system	-	4
18. Coronary Disease, Angina	7	2
19. Hypertension with heart disease	-	-
20. Other heart disease	3	7
21. Other circulatory disease	-	-
22. Influenza	-	-
23. Pneumonia	-	1
24. Bronchitis	-	-
25. Other diseases of respiratory system	-	-
26. Ulcers of stomach and duodenum	-	-
27. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	-	-
28. Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	-
29. Hyperplasia of prostate	-	-
30. Pregnancy, childbirth and abortion	-	-
31. Congenital malformations	-	-
32. Other defined and ill-defined diseases	1	5
33. Motor vehicles accidents	1	-
34. All other accidents	-	-
35. Suicide	-	-
36. Homicide and operations of war	-	-
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Totals	14	22
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The following short table gives the numbers of those dying in the age groups indicated :-

<u>Age Groups</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Under 1 year	-	-
1 - 4 years	-	-
5 - 14 "	-	-
15 - 24 "	1	-
25 - 34 "	-	-
35 - 44 "	-	-
45 - 54 "	-	-
55 - 64 "	1	2
65 - 74 "	8	3
75 years and over	4	17
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Total	14	22

SECTION A

Lostwithiel is a quiet country town set in pleasant surroundings in the valley of the Fowey River. The town has many historic associations and has some very well preserved buildings. The only industry of any consequence is the milk depot.

There is a considerable rise in the population during the summer months caused by the influx of visitors.

SECTION B

General Provisions of Health Service

Public Health Officers:

(1) Medical Officer of Health. J. McGovern, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H.
Area Health Office, Moorland Road,
St. Austell.
Telephone St. Austell 2206.

(2) Public Health Inspector, C.A.L. Setchell, A.M.I.S.E.,
M.R.S.H.

Laboratory Facilities

These are available at the Royal Cornwall Infirmary, Truro, where all material is sent for investigation.

Diphtheria Prophylaxis

Supplies of diphtheria prophylactic alone, and in various combinations with whooping cough vaccine and tetanus toxoid are available at the Area Health Office. Poliomyelitis vaccine has been readily available and is issued on request.

Ambulance Facilities

The control of ambulances has passed from the Area Health Office to a special control centre at Bodmin. There will be no change in availability and the method of obtaining an ambulance is unchanged.

Nursing in the Home

There is one District Nurse, Midwife-Health Visitor, who is able to cope with all demands. A relief is supplied for all leave and sickness absence.

Home Help

A full time organiser covers the whole Health Area. Eight homes received assistance.

Maternity and Child Welfare

There is no clinic but as the Nurse visits regularly in the home, the health of the children is well supervised. The Nurse works in cooperation with the family doctor.

Hospitals

There are no hospitals in the area and patients are sent to St. Austell, Bodmin, Fowey, Truro and Redruth. Patients with infectious diseases are sent to Truro Isolation Hospital when necessary.

SECTION CWater Supply

Draw off from the River Fowey Scheme enables adequate supplies of water to be furnished to all parts of the Borough, augmented by the Council's sources at Church Park Wood and Colle Beacon. These supplies are very satisfactory in quality and in quantity. Four new connections to the supply mains were made during the year, and with the exception of a few farms and houses in isolated positions all premises in the Borough have a direct supply.

Samples of water have been taken at frequent intervals from various points on the distribution system during the year as follows :-

No. of samples	12
Results satisfactory	12

Sewerage

Further consideration of the scheme for improvement of sewers and sewage disposal for the Town was held in abeyance.

SECTION DHousing

Informal notices and interview with owners secured necessary repairs in 38 instances.

Old People's Flats, Mill Gardens:

These twelve old people's flats were completed and occupied in October of this year, and are provided with a very capable and efficient Warden and his wife.

Housing Improvements

Not enough use is being made by property owners of the provisions and assistance available by way of Improvement Grants. During the year 21 applications for Standard Grants were made and approved.

Housing - for year ended 31st December 1963.
Lostwithiel Borough

1. (a) Total number of permanent houses at 31st December 1963	708
(b) Total number of permanent houses owned by Local Authority at 31st December 1963	115
2. (a) New houses erected :-	
(i) by local authority	12
(ii) by private enterprise	3
(b) Number of applicants on housing list at the end of the year	49
3. Number of houses specially provided for, and occupied by, people of pensionable age	11
(a) Receiving contribution from County Council for Welfare Services	11
(b) Other houses	1
4. Houses demolished :	
(a) in clearance areas :	
(i) Houses unfit for human habitation	Nil
(ii) Houses included by reason of bad arrangement etc.	Nil
(iii) Houses on land acquired under Section 43 (2) Housing Act, 1947	Nil
(b) Not in clearance areas:	
(i) As a result of formal or informal procedure under Section 16 or Section 17 (1) Housing Act 1957	6
(ii) Local Authority owned houses certified unfit by the Medical Officer of Health	Nil
(iii) Houses unfit for human habitation where action has been taken under Local Acts	Nil
(iv) Unfit houses included in unfitness Orders	Nil
5. Unfit houses closed :	
(a) Under Sections 16(4), 17(1) and 35(1) Housing Act, 1957	4
(b) Under Sections 17(3) and 26 Housing Act 1957	Nil
(c) Parts of buildings closed under Section 18 Housing Act, 1957	Nil
6. Unfit houses made fit and houses in which defects were remedied :	

		<u>By Owner</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>
(a) After informal action by local Authority	33	Nil	
(b) After formal notice under :-			
(i) Public Health Acts	2	Nil	
(ii) Sections 9 and 16 Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil	
(c) Under Section 24 Housing Act 1957	Nil	Nil	
7. Unfit houses in temporary use (Housing Act 1957):			
(a) Retained for temporary accommodation :			
(i) Under Section 48	Nil		
(ii) Under Section 17 (2)	Nil		
(iii) Under Section 46	Nil		
(b) Licensed for temporary occupation under Section 34 or 53	Nil		
8. Purchase of houses by agreement :			
Houses in clearance areas other than those included in confirmed clearance orders or compulsory purchase orders, purchased during the year	Nil		
9. Housing Acts 1949-1959			
Improvement Grants :			
(a) Discretionary :			
Number of applications received - dwellings	Nil		
Number of applications approved - dwellings	Nil		
Total expenditure approved	Nil		
Total amount of grants made	Nil		
(b) Standard :			
Number of applications received - dwellings	24		
Number of applications approved - dwellings	21		
Total expenditure approved	£8600		
Total amount of grants made	£1303		

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SECTION E.

Meat and Other Foods :

Early in the year the only licensed slaughterhouse in the Town was disposed of, and all home killed meat is supplied to butchers in the Borough from abattoirs in nearby towns.

Other foods

Tinned and other goods are inspected upon request from retailers, and are properly dealt with - small quantities are condemned from time to time as a result of decomposition or damaged tins.

Milk

Periodic visits are made to the three milk retailers in the Town whose premises are quite satisfactory - bottled milk only being sold as it is received from the bottling establishment.

Cafes, Restaurants and Food Catering Premises

Visits of inspection are regularly made to all food preparing premises and in general the standard of the cleanliness is satisfactory.

SECTION F

Prevalence of and control over infectious and other diseases

The following notifications were received :-

<u>Disease</u>	<u>Number of cases during 1963</u>
Measles	13
Puerperal Pyrexia	2

Diphtheria Immunisation

The following tables gives the number of immunisations carried out during the year.

Children born during the Year

	1963	62	61	60	59	58-54	53-49	Total
Primary Immunisation	15	18	1	-	-	-	-	34
Reinforcing Injections	-	-	-	-	2	15	33	50

Smallpox Vaccination

5 Primary Vaccinations carried out
and
2 Revaccinations performed.

SECTION F (CONTINUED)

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

Poliomyelitis vaccine is available. Needless to say the oral vaccine has replaced the Salk vaccine. This, however, is an advantage since the oral vaccine gives a very high degree of protection.

Tuberculosis

The number of cases on the register is given below with the previous year's figures in brackets -

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Pulmonary	5 (5)	5 (5)
Non-Pulmonary	Nil	1 (1)

There were no deaths from tuberculosis.

Tuberculosis Prevention in Children

For some years the Cornwall County Council has offered protective vaccination against tuberculosis to school leavers. The vaccinations are carried out by means of B.C.G. Vaccine, to suitable children, following preliminary skin testing. In 1963 the Scheme was extended to the 11 year and 12 year old groups. In Health Area IV 931 school children received B.C.G. vaccination following skin tests to 1319 children. It is more convenient to give the figures for the Health Area IV than for the Borough of Lostwithiel alone, since there is considerable interchange of pupils from one district to another.

Prescribed Particulars on the
Administration of the Factories Acts
1937 and 1948PART I OF THE ACT

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

<u>Premises</u>	(No. on (Register	(Inspec- tions	(Written Notices	(Occupiers Prose- cuted
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	18	24	3	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	5	8	Nil	-
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (ex-cluding out-workers' premises)	Nil	-	-	-
Total	23	32	3	Nil

2. Cases in which defects were found.

(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more "cases").

Number of cases in which defects were found

Particulars	Found	Remedied	Referred		BY H.M. Inspector
			TO H.M. Inspector	BY H.M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	Nil	Nil	
Overcrowding (S.2)	Nil	Nil	-	-	
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	Nil	-	-	-	
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	Nil	-	-	-	
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	Nil	-	-	-	
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7)	-	-	-	-	
(a) Insufficient	2	-	-	-	2
(b) Unsuitable or defective	Nil	-	-	-	
(c) Not separate for sexes	Nil	-	-	-	
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work).	Nil	-	-	-	
Total	5	3	Nil	2	
Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted					NIL

PART VIII OF THE ACT.

(Outwork)
(Sections 110 and 111)

	<u>Section 110</u>		<u>Section 111</u>			
<u>Nature of work</u>	<u>No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (c)</u>	<u>No. of cases of default sending lists to Council</u>	<u>No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists</u>	<u>No. of instances of work in un-whole-Some premises</u>	<u>Notices served</u>	<u>Prosecutions</u>
Wearing apparel) Making etc. 2	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
) cleaning and					
) washing					
Household linen -						
Lace, lace curtains and nets -						
Curtains and furniture hangings -						
Furniture and upholstery -						
Electro plate -						
File making -						
Brass and brass articles -						
Fur pulling -						
Iron and Steel cables and chains -						
Iron and Steel anchor & grapnels -						
Cart gear -						
Locks, latches and key -						
Umbrellas, etc. -						
Artificial flowers -						
Nets other than wire nets -						
Tents -						
Sacks -						
Racquet and tennis balls -						
Paper bags -						
The making of boxes or other receptacles or parts thereof made wholly or partially of paper -						
Brush making -						
Pea Picking -						
Feather sorting -						
Carding etc. of buttons etc -						
Stuffed toys -						
Basket making -						
Chocolates and sweetmeats -						
Cosaques, Christmas stockings etc. -						
Textile weaving -						
Lampshades -						



